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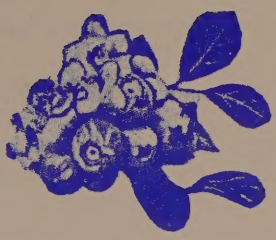
PRICE LIST [1961]

Monroe Farms

Growers of Cultivated Blueberries



Box 426, Browns Mills, New Jersey

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

Member of Blueberry Co-operative Association
Growers of Tru-Blu-Berries

LEADING VARIETIES — Most Popular with Commercial Growers

RANCOCAS - EARLY - ATLANTIC - CONCORD & STANLEY - MIDSEASON
JERSEY, RUBEL, DIXI & PEMBERTON - LATE
BURLINGTON - VERY LATE

		each	Plants 100 & over each
Rooted Cuttings		.20	.15
Plants	6" to 10"	.30	.25
Plants	10" to 18"	.35	.30

LATEST INTRODUCTIONS — NEWEST VARIETIES

Weymouth - Early **Coville - Late**
Berkley - Midseason

		each	Plants 100 & over each
Rooted Cuttings		.40	.35
Plants	6" to 10"	.50	.45
Plants	10" to 18"	.60	.50

SPECIAL PRICES ON 500 PLANTS OR OVER

All Prices Net — F.O.B., Browns Mills

No Advance in Prices — No Packing Charges

Experience has taught us it is neither advantageous nor economical to plant Blueberry Plants larger than 12"-18" size.

The varieties listed have been proven outstanding.

All plants inspected and certified by
State of New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Blueberry bushes have a special appeal to many persons for landscape use, as individual bushes, mass plantings, or in hedges. The bare bushes in winter, the spring bloom, and the foliage in summer and autumn are attractive and fit well into many landscapes. If the bushes are not covered with netting to protect the crop, they are especially attractive in July. The development of such a planting should be worked out for each individual spot.

The districts growing blueberries best have some freezing weather during the winter but rarely a minimum of 20 degrees below zero, as such extreme cold kills the fruit buds. Some gardeners in the colder climates protect their blueberry bushes with straw tied around the tops during the winter. Frosts after growth starts may ruin the bloom and crop, but such troubles are more common in the low-lying commercial fields than they would be in the garden.

Soil Management Is Most Important

Most commercial fields have a peat-sand or peat-loam soil that is acid and moist. The water table is usually about 18 to 24 inches below the surface. This level keeps the soil somewhat moist but allows good drainage at the surface. Fields are usually made by draining swamps or low areas where the peat and sand are found, clearing the land of its natural growth, and mixing the soil well before planting. A few fields are on deep peat with little or no sand present. Such soil may be fairly satisfactory if the acidity is below pH 5.

Where soils like these are available in the home garden, blueberries should grow well. In most New Jersey gardens, however, the soil is loamy sand, loam, or clay loam in texture and is relatively low in organic matter. If the soil is sandy, rather acid, and has a wild growth of blueberries, laurel, or rhododendrons, then as much as possible of the natural peat should be retained and worked into the soil. If additional peat can be brought in, it will help. If the soil is distinctly dry, some form of irrigation, probably of the sprinkler type, may be necessary to ensure good growth. If the soil is reasonably moist, a mulch deep enough to control weeds will conserve sufficient moisture. Salt hay, sawdust, or leaves will make a satisfactory covering, but any strawy material will do. Where clean cultivation is desired, the surface soil may be worked with a hoe or iron rake and water supplied, by irrigation, as needed in dry weather. On loam and clay loam soils with fair moisture content, a mulch will usually hold enough moisture. Very compact, poorly aerated, and poorly drained soils should be avoided, as the plants may die if water stands around them during the growing season.

Where a mulch of organic material is applied, especially on the lighter soils, the soil microorganisms which cause decay of the organic matter will multiply rapidly and tie up nitrogen from the soil in their own bodies, and the plants may suffer from a deficiency of this element. Later when the organisms die, this nitrogen will be released and may be used by the plants. When the mulch is first applied to a soil naturally rather low in nitrogen, about twice as much nitrogen should be applied in the fertilizer as would be used on that soil if it were not mulched. The procedure in following years may be judged from the appearance of the plants: enough nitrogen should be used to maintain good growth and a dark green leaf color.

Where natural conditions are far from favorable, it is possible to make up a soil suitable for blueberries. Wet spots can be drained and made into blueberry beds with very little additional trouble. Clay or well-limed land offers most obstacles to the blueberry gardener. Under extreme conditions, a trench may be dug 4 feet wide, 2 feet deep, and long enough to hold the number of plants wanted when spaced 4 to 6 feet apart. The trench is then filled with a mixture of one part sand or sandy soil, one part thoroughly rotted leaf mold, and one part weathered sawdust, shredded peat, or partly rotted oak leaves. If drainage is difficult to accomplish, the bed may be partly raised or even built above the ground level and the sloping sides sodded to prevent erosion. The plants are set in the middle of a bed so formed and are then watered and mulched. Watering will be necessary whenever the soil becomes dry.

The plants need commercial fertilizer for best growth. The mixture to be used depends on the fertility of the land, but as an example, well-fertilized fields use 7-7-7 or 5-10-5 at the rate of one half pound to a large bush. This is spread evenly over the area between 6 inches from the plant and 2 feet away, soon after the plants start to grow in spring. A top-dressing of nitrate of soda or sulfate of ammonia, 2 to 3 ounces to a large bush, may be added in June if the plants appear to lack vigor. The sulfate of ammonia seems to give good results when the soil has a pH value above 5.5, and the nitrate of soda when the pH is lower.

Bushes Must Be Pruned

In order to grow large fruit and keep bushes vigorous, considerable pruning is necessary. The large round fruit buds at the ends of the twigs must be distinguished from the small pointed leaf buds. The first operation is to remove the short twiggy growth which usually develops where fruiting was heavy the previous year. A fruiting lateral or stem should have a 3- or 4-inch section bearing leaf buds. Tipping the lateral back so that it has not more than five fruit buds assures larger berries. The rest of the bush can be thinned after it is 4 or 5 years old. This thinning should consist of taking out the oldest canes to stimulate the growth of young, vigorous shoots. It is a good plan to have the fruit buds well distributed over the bush rather than only at the top.

Pick the Fruit Properly

It is a good plan to pick the ripe fruit as soon as the color extends to the stem. Picking once a week is not too often. Prompt picking greatly reduces the danger of losses from insects and ensures firm fruit.

For Additional Information Order

Farmers Bulletin No. 1951

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10 – LARGE BEARING AGE PLANTS

3 Varieties, Our Selection - For Home Gardens

~~$4.50~~ $5.00

Quotations on the LATEST VARIETIES, Upon Request

Earlyblue - Herbert - Bluecrop -

RIPENING PERIOD, QUALITY AND SHAPE OF BLUEBERRY VARIETIES

As Rated by U. S. Department of Agriculture

Rank	Season (early to late)	Size of berry (large to small)	Dessert quality (good to poorer)	Color (light to dark blue)	Shipping quality (good to poorer)	Cold resistance (hardy to tenderer)	Bush shape (erect to spreading)
1 — —	Weymouth	Dixi	Stanley	Stanley	Jersey	Jersey	Rubel
2 — —		Atlantic	Dixi	Jersey	Burlington	Stanley	Rancocas
3 — —	Rancocas	Pemberton	Atlantic	Concord	Rancocas		
4 — —	Stanley	Jersey	Concord	Atlantic	Atlantic	Rubel	Pemberton
5 — —	Concord	Weymouth	Burlington	Rubel	Rubel	Rancocas	Stanley
6 — —	Dixi	Concord	Pemberton	Burlington		Concord	Jersey
7 — —	Atlantic	Stanley	Rancocas	Rancocas	Stanley		Concord
8 — —	Pemberton		Rubel	Dixi	Pemberton		Burlington
9 — —	Rubel	Burlington	Jersey		Concord		Dixi
10 — —	Jersey	Rancocas		Pemberton			Weymouth
11 — —	Burlington	Rubel	Weymouth	Weymouth			Atlantic